

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 01438 171135Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----023808 171136Z /10

O 171041Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7134  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE  
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AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T BEIRUT 1438

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PGOV, XF, US  
SUBJECT: SOUTH LEBANON

REF: STATE 068721

1. BRITISH AMBASSADOR WAKEFIELD CAME BY TO SEE ME BRIEFLY AT 0930 ENROUTE TO MEETING WITH BOUTROS AT PALACE. HE WAS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO RAISE UN FORCE IDEA AND I BRIEFED HIM ON MY DISCUSSIONS WITH SARKIS, HOSS AND BOUTROS LAST NIGHT AND NIGHT BEFORE. I GAVE HIM TEXT OF OUR RESPONSE TO BEGIN ON QUESTION OF ROLE ENVISAGED FOR UN FORCES AS IN PARA 1C OF STATE 068721. HE DELIVERED SAME TO BOUTROS AND REPORTED BACK TO ME THAT THERE WAS NOTHING NEW IN CONVERSATION.

2. BOUTROS SUBSEQUENTLY CALLED TO SAY HE HAD RECEIVED ANSWER FOR WHICH HE THANKED ME AND THAT GOL WOULD BE CONFERRING WITH KHADDAM WHO WAS ENROUTE HERE FROM DAMASCUS.

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HE DID NOT KNOW HOW LONG KHADDAM WOULD STAY, BUT WOULD GET IN TOUCH WITH ME AFTER HE HAD LEFT. AT THAT TIME HE WOULD BE IN BETTER POSITION TO INFORM US WHAT LEBANESE WOULD DO. BOUTROS NOTED THAT HE HAD MADE STATEMENT THIS MORNING EXPRESSING SATISFACTION WITH USG STATEMENT OF YESTERDAY REGARDING WITHDRAWAL AND OUR EFFORTS. WE ASSUME TEXT WILL BE AVAILABLE THROUGH FBIS, BUT REPORT HEREWITH

FOR THE RECORD.

3. IN ANSWER TO A QUESTION ABOUT US POSITION REQUESTING ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM SOUTH LEBANON, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE FUAD BOUTROS SAID THIS MORNING: "THE UNITED STATES POSITION ANNOUNCED LAST NIGHT REQUESTING ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM SOUTH LEBANON CAME IN RESPONSE TO A MESSAGE SENT BY PRESIDENT ELIAS SARKIS DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES VIA THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR IN BEIRUT IN WHICH HE ASKED THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT TO TAKE A POSITION VIS-A-VIS THE ATTACK ON THE SOUTH AND DEVELOPMENTS IN LEBANON WHICH WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH AMERICAN PLEDGES AND ASSURANCES ABOUT LEBANON'S INDEPENDENCE, UNITY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY. HE ALSO ASKED IN THE SAME MESSAGE FOR ASSISTANCE IN RESTORING LEBANON'S SOVEREIGNTY OVER ITS TERRITORIES ESPECIALLY IN THE SOUTH."

MINISTER BOUTROS ADDED THAT THE EXPLICIT POSITION TAKEN BY THE UNITED STATES, AS WELL AS THE POSITION OF THE SOVIET UNION, CONSTITUTE AN IMPORTANT FACTOR WHICH WOULD HELP IN DEALING WITH THE ISRAELI ATTACK AND THE WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI TROOPS AND THE RESTORATION OF OFFICIAL AUTHORITY TO LEBANON ESPECIALLY IN THE SOUTH, AND PARTICULARLY BECAUSE THIS IS A POINT OF GREAT SIGNIFICANCE IN OUR VIEW.

MINISTER BOUTROS CONCLUDED: "LEBANESE DIPLOMACY IS  
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BASED ON THESE CONSIDERATIONS WITHIN THIS FRAMEWORK. HENCE THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT'S INITIATIVE IN CONDEMNING THE ATTACK AND REQUESTING WITHDRAWAL IN AN IMMEDIATE COMPLAINT SUBMITTED TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL."

PARKER

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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